



United States Department of Interior  
106 North Parkmont

Bureau of Land Management

Butte Field Office  
Butte, Montana 59701

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **BLM TO ANALYZE IMPACTS OF IRON MASK ACQUISITION**

BUTTE (October 6, 2005) - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Butte Field Office is planning to analyze potential impacts of acquiring the Iron Mask property using Land and Water Conservation Fund monies. The Iron Mask property is located approximately five miles northwest of Townsend on the east side of the Elkhorn Mountains.

Partners in the proposed acquisition are The Conservation Fund (TCF), a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting America's land and water resources and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), a non-profit organization with a mission of ensuring the future of elk, other wildlife and their habitat. The Iron Mask property consists of approximately 5600 acres of sloping terrain ranging from open shrub (mostly sagebrush and juniper) and grasslands to steeper terrain timbered with a few small stands of lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir.

As part of the environmental assessment (EA), BLM is interested in identifying any potential concerns or issues raised by interested individuals or groups. Those issues and concerns will be analyzed during EA development. **To be included in the document, your issues or concerns need to be submitted by October 21, 2005.**

Submit comments to the attention of Dave Barney, Realty Specialist, Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, Montana 59701 or by calling (406) 533-7600.